



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: July 19, 2004, 1:00 p.m.
Week Ending: July 18, 2004
CWP WA-CW2904

Winter Wheat Harvest Underway Raspberry and Blueberry Harvests in Full Swing

Field Crops

Winter wheat harvest was underway throughout the eastern counties, as were harvests for barley, lentils and dry peas. Across the state, the third cutting of alfalfa was just starting, as the first cutting was nearing completion. Bluegrass harvest continued. Christmas tree growers were shearing Grand firs and top working Noble firs.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 11 % very poor, 21% poor, 28% fair, 39% good and 1% excellent. Hay and other roughage supplies were mostly adequate. Moisture was needed on non-irrigated pastures.

Fruits and Vegetables

Sweet corn planting in Grant County was complete and seed pea harvest was just underway. Green pea harvest was complete in Franklin County as early potato harvest was starting. Cherry harvest was in full swing in the Green Bluff area of Spokane County. Soft fruit harvest continued in Benton County. Raspberry and blueberry harvests were in full swing in many western counties.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.9
Last Week	6.9

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	8	34	58	0
Topsoil 5 Yr Ave	13	40	47	0
Subsoil	5	30	65	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	9	43	48	0
Irrigation Water	0	2	98	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	0	6	94	0
Hay & Roughage	2	7	81	10

VS=Very Short SH=Short AD=Adequate S=Surplus

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2003	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Headed	99	99	100	100
Spring Wheat Harvested	0	0	2	1
Winter Wheat Harvested	6	3	8	5
Barley Headed	99	99	100	100
Barley Harvested	1	0	1	2
Potatoes Harvested	10	8	10	9
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	80	78	91	90
Dry Peas Harvested	4	3	7	3
Alfalfa Hay 1st Cutting	99	98	100	100
Alfalfa Hay 2nd Cutting	70	67	89	85
Alfalfa Hay 3rd Cutting	2	1	1	4

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	5	25	57	11
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	4	90	6
Spring Wheat Dryland	2	3	34	53	8
Spring Wheat Irrigated	0	0	5	90	5
Barley Dryland	1	2	30	55	12
Barley Irrigated	0	0	2	80	18
Potatoes	0	1	7	90	2
Corn	0	1	4	94	1
Dry Edible Beans	0	0	6	93	1

VP=Very Poor P=Poor F=Fair G=Good EX=Excellent

* Crop conditions are a measurement of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Grays Harbor: Very warm temperatures in the high 80's, with no rainfall, continued to exacerbate dry conditions throughout the county. Pastures and hay fields where irrigation was not available were bone dry. Sweet corn with irrigation was thriving under nearly ideal growing conditions. Raspberry and blackberry harvest peaked with the warm temperatures resulting in a shortened harvest season. Christmas tree growers continued doing top work on Noble fir. Cereal grains were quickly approaching maturity for harvest, with fields providing a golden glow throughout the rural landscape. Hothouse tomato growers were having a difficult time meeting harvest demands, as the fruit was ripening very rapidly. Home gardeners continued to feast on peas, zucchinis, cucumbers, and tomatoes.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: The dry weather continued as hay harvest wrapped up. Rain showers generally did not materialize as predicted. Topsoil moisture was nearly depleted in many areas.

Pierce/South King: Crop conditions remained favorable. There were no reports of unusual situations or damage due to a weather event.

Skagit: Dry, warm conditions prevailed throughout the week. Raspberry and blueberry harvest continued with

excellent quality. Potato vines were killed. Apple maggot surveys yielded no adults yet. The cucumber crop looked very good. A lot of drought symptoms were seen on backyard ornamentals, especially cedars. Pea harvest continued. Growers were attending WSU field days.

Skagit/San Juan/Island: The weather was warm and dry. There was no crop damage reported.

Snohomish/King: Temperatures were again warm. There were a few scattered showers but no appreciable precipitation. Pasture growth slowed due to dry conditions. Crops could use some rain. Manure spreading continued on fields being cut for silage. Raspberry and blueberry harvest continued.

Thurston: Meeting irrigation requirements continued to be a high priority among ag producers, as another week of warm temperatures approaching 90 degrees, and no moisture exacerbated dry conditions throughout the county. Agriculture producers were disappointed that forecasted rainfall over the weekend never materialized. Pastures and hay fields without irrigation were bone dry. The sizzling heat resulted in rapid ripening of blueberries. Christmas tree growers continued top working Noble fir and shearing Grand fir. Home gardeners harvested the first ripe tomatoes, cucumbers, and zucchinis of the season. The rural landscape remained tinder dry.

Central

Benton: Wheat harvest began. Soft fruit harvest continued under hot conditions.

Chelan/Douglas: The weather was hot and dry during the week. Cherry harvest was nearly complete in the higher elevations, which will conclude harvest for the 2004 crop. The spring wheat crop needs some moisture. Harvest for winter wheat was approximately one week away in some areas of Douglas County.

Franklin: The weather was warm and dry during the past week. The second cutting of alfalfa continued. Winter wheat harvest was underway. Pea harvest was complete. Early potatoes were being harvested.

Grant: Sweet corn planting was complete. High temperatures stressed most crops. Seed pea harvest was underway.

Klickitat: Some alfalfa producers tried to make earlier first cutting as an alfalfa weevil management control measure, but rain hampered baling. Some second cutting of hay was down. Significant rainfall received in some parts of the county should help regrowth of hay, but again impede baling.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from normal to 10 degrees above normal, with a trace of precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

Eastern

Adams: Winter wheat harvest should be in full swing by week's end.

Asotin/Garfield: Harvest of wheat and barley began in the lower elevations of both counties. Early reports of crops yields were good.

Columbia: Dry pea harvest was underway. Wheat harvest began today. The crop is average to slightly above average.

Ferry: The weather was very dry and hot. Fire season began early. Wild berries and hay crops were about 1-3 weeks early in harvest readiness this year. It appears to be the fifth year of drought. Cattle watering springs and home springs flowage were much lower than last year and appeared to be drying up in some areas.

Ferry/Okanogan: The second cutting of alfalfa was underway. The cherry harvest was almost complete for the higher elevations. The county experienced hot, dry conditions all week. Winter wheat harvest began in the lower elevations.

Lincoln: Winter wheat harvest began in the southwestern corner of the county.

Lincoln (2nd Report): Grain crops benefitted from minimal and spotty showers. Most crops looked good; however, a significant amount of pasture was in poor condition due to a

lack of timing of rain.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: Hot weather early in the week, made for good bluegrass harvest. The weekend had high humidity. The weather conditions were good for timothy hay growers in Pend Oreille County. Cherry harvest was in full swing at Green Bluff. Hot weather really pushed crops towards maturity. Spring grains showed some signs of stress.

Stevens: Hay producers finally got a long enough stretch of good weather to bale the first cutting of hay. Grain hay producers began cutting and baling beardless barley and oat hay. Grain crops matured rapidly. Rain came to the county late in the week.

Walla Walla/Columbia: Hot conditions early in the week became overcast later in the week. Harvest was underway in many areas of the county. Columbia County producers began cutting dry peas. The wheat harvest should begin towards the end of the week. The weather conditions were cooler over the weekend, with reports of scattered thunder showers.

Whitman: Weather conditions were exceptionally hot during the week with temperatures hitting 100 degrees. Many of the early areas of the county will be harvesting this week. Producers were swathing lentils and spraying weeds during the past week. Combines were being prepared and placed into position for the start of harvest.

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Weekly Weather Statistics

July 19, 2004

Station	Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days				Last Week Precipitation			Season Precipitation			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	Base 50F		Base 60F		Total			Total		% Normal	Days
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	Inches	DFN	Days	Inches	DFN		
WEST															
Bellingham	50	81	66	5	115	31	45	24	0.01	-0.27	1	27.79	-6.50	81	140
Everett	54	87	68	6	125	34	55	34	0.00	-0.28	0	27.72	-6.94	80	150
Hoquiam	51	83	65	5	107	32	37	26	0.00	-0.28	0	61.39	-4.58	93	176
Kelso	61	91	75	12	175	77	105	77	0.00	-0.21	0	31.09	-13.63	70	122
Olympia	47	87	68	6	127	36	57	35	0.00	-0.15	0	44.00	-5.02	90	153
Sea-Tac	56	85	69	4	132	26	62	24	0.00	-0.14	0	32.98	-2.82	92	135
Shelton	46	88	69	4	133	28	63	28	0.00	-0.21	0	60.22	-3.11	95	150
Tacoma	52	88	69	5	137	34	67	32	0.00	-0.18	0	30.63	-8.04	79	133
Vancouver	57	93	73	9	162	57	92	57	0.00	-0.16	0	29.76	-10.04	75	144
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	50	101	78	10	197	69	127	69	0.01	-0.04	1	7.37	-1.09	87	86
Omak	52	100	79	13	207	83	137	81	0.00	-0.14	0	10.61	-3.11	77	70
Stampede Pass	49	90	70	15	139	97	69	62	0.01	-0.27	1	70.17	-8.38	89	164
Wenatchee	58	98	81	8	218	53	148	52	0.00	-0.03	0	8.87	1.08	114	77
Yakima AP	48	98	76	7	187	47	117	47	0.00	0.00	0	6.29	-1.22	84	68
NORTHEAST															
Colville	48	96	76	10	183	67	113	64	0.00	-0.18	0	8.82	-10.97	45	74
Deer Park	43	99	73	4	159	23	89	23	0.00	-0.21	0	17.63	0.14	101	124
Spokane AP	54	96	77	8	188	55	118	55	0.02	-0.12	1	13.20	-2.33	85	108
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	54	101	82	7	227	51	157	52	0.00	-0.07	0	4.85	-1.98	71	64
Moses Lake	50	103	80	5	212	36	142	37	0.02	-0.05	1	5.07	-1.76	74	63
Quincy	50	97	79	9	204	57	134	57	0.00	-0.04	0	4.93	-2.42	67	57
Ritzville	48	100	76	7	182	46	112	46	0.00	-0.07	0	10.23	-0.53	95	74
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	50	104	84	7	241	45	171	45	0.00	0.00	0	6.38	0.30	105	65
Pasco	47	103	80	6	214	39	144	39	0.00	0.00	0	7.70	0.68	110	78
Pullman	45	97	71	6	151	43	81	39	0.00	-0.14	0	15.15	-4.79	76	103
Whitman Miss.	48	99	76	5	182	35	112	35	0.00	-0.07	0	16.25	3.30	125	113
ID PANHANDLE															
Coeur D'A' AP	46	93	72	4	159	23	89	22	0.01	-0.17	1	13.51	-10.81	56	105
Lewiston ID	55	105	82	8	226	55	156	54	0.00	-0.14	0	11.31	-0.10	99	95

Summary based on NWS data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2003

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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